



EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

Steve Beshear
Governor

Department of Military Affairs
Boone National Guard Center
Frankfort, KY 40601-6168

BG John W Heltzel
Director

January 26, 2009

Dear Superintendent:

As Director of Kentucky Emergency Management and Deputy Commander of Joint Force Headquarters-Kentucky, I know the need to plan for any possible event that may occur and affect the lives of the people of the Commonwealth. We all have seen the aftermath of events that may have been discussed but not given proper planning for recovery. We also have seen the remnants of natural disasters that people have not prepared for.

With this thought in mind, I am inviting you and members of your school district to attend a very important planning meeting on February 9, 2009, at the Kentucky Transportation Building, 200 Mero Street, Frankfort, from 9:00 – 4:00. This planning meeting will provide valuable information and insight to a statewide Pandemic Flu and Influenza Exercise that will be held the week of August 3-7, 2009.

As with any health emergency, the Pandemic Flu would touch the lives of people in all communities and of all walks of life. The common thread in any community is the local schools. By sharing information with your district concerning the week long exercise, it is our hope that your district will want to participate in the exercise by involving your school district staff with events planned by the county emergency manager or county health department during this exercise. Your school district's involvement is wanted and needed to ensure this exercise is educational and helpful to residents and businesses across the state in planning for a possible epidemic that would have profound impact on the lives of those we serve.

However, if your district decides not to participate in the August exercise, the valuable information that you and your staff will receive will assist you in planning for possible disasters such as the Pandemic Flu.

Please contact Heather Pillion at heather.pillion@us.army.mil or 502-607-1682 with the name, title and contact information of those attending from your district.

We look forward to sharing information with your school district that will better help your staff deal with a widespread epidemic. We also hope that after the training, your district will decide to participate in the statewide exercise that we believe will assist in preparing agencies for any possible major health issues.

Please contact me if I can be of any assistance to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John W. Heltzel".

BG John Heltzel

